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CYCLOPTERUS CORONATUS, CORONATED LUMP FISH, COUCH.

Of this species, new to the British Fauna if not to science, I have examined only one specimen; the small size of which causes me to suppose that it has hitherto been overlooked from its likeness to the young of the common lump fish. The specimen was about eight lines in length, of the same general proportions. About the centre of gravity, near the summit of the back, is a wide and moderately long fin, the extremity declining; the second dorsal separated from the first by an interval, and placed opposite the anal. Colour, a dark green on the back, lighter on the sides, whitish below, a silvery line across the head, uniting the posterior portion of the eyes, and from this on each side a line running forward, approximating and then receding at right angles, thus resembling the Greek Ω , but with a square instead of a circular summit. The specific name is from this mark. The differences between this and the common lump fish are, the entire want of tubercles, which in the latter give a grotesque appearance to the back, the want of the flat space between the termination of the ridge and the (only) dorsal fin; and more especially in the moderately elongated first dorsal fin, which bears no resemblance to the vestige of fin described as possessed by the painted lump fish.—COUCH, *Fauna of Cornwall*, p. 48.

FRENCH EXPEDITION OF DISCOVERY TO THE SOUTH POLAR SEAS.

This expedition, undertaken by the French Government, under the command of M. D'Urville, has completely failed. The vessels, *Astrolabe* and *Zélée*, were not able to penetrate beyond the 64° south, being fully 10° short of the parallel reached by Weddel. They were stopped by a compact barrier of ice, and found the whole sea in the latitude we have mentioned completely frozen.

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